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Request for the inclusion of an additional sub-item in the agenda of the fifty-ninth session

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of a member of the International Court of Justice

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By a letter dated 11 October 2004, a certified copy of which was forwarded to the attention of the Secretary-General under the cover of a letter dated 11 October 2004 from the President of the International Court of Justice, Judge and former President Gilbert Guillaume informed the President of the Court, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 4, of the Statute of the Court, of his resignation as a member of the Court effective 11 February 2005. A vacancy in the Court will therefore occur on 11 February 2005.

2. Judge and former President Guillaume was elected a member of the Court on 14 September 1987 and was re-elected on 15 November 1990 and on 3 November 1999 for a term of office that will end on 5 February 2009. He was President of the Court from 7 February 2000 to 6 February 2003. He was also President of a special Chamber in two cases.

3. By a note dated 21 October 2004, the Security Council was informed of the occurrence of this vacancy in the Court.

4. The agenda of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly (A/59/251) does not contain a sub-item on election of members of the International Court of Justice. The Secretary-General therefore deems it necessary to add to the agenda of the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly, pursuant to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, under item 15, entitled "Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs", a sub-item entitled "Election of a member of the International Court of Justice".

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